हथकरघा बुनकरों की आर्थिक दशा को सुधारने तथा हथकरघा बुनकरों के हितों की सुरक्षा के लिए सरकार ने नीचे दी गई विकासात्मक स्कीमों के द्वारा वित्तीय सहायता प्रदान करने हेतु कई कदम उठाये हैं।

1. बाजार विकास सहायता स्कीम
2. निर्यात योग्य उत्पादों का विकास और उनके विपणन की स्कीम
3. राष्ट्रीय/मिनी हथकरघा एक्सपो
4. शिल्प मेले, जिला स्तर के मेले तथा त्यौहार
5. कार्यशाला-सह-आवास योजना स्कीम
6. थ्रिफ्ट फंड स्कीम।
7. समूह बीमा स्कीम।
8. स्वास्थ्य पैकेज स्कीम
9. प्रोजेक्ट पैकेज स्कीम
10. अनुसंधान एवं विकास स्कीम
11. स्वतंत्र डिजाइनर स्कीम
12. विकेन्द्रीकृत प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम।
13. मिल गेट कीमत पर यार्न की आपूर्ति।

Ban on Cotton Export

2478. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Tamil Nadu Government has requested for ban on cotton export; and

(b) the action taken in this regard to meet the shortage of yarn in that State?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) and (b) Yes sir, the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu had written a letter to the Union Minister of Textiles requesting not to allow export of raw cotton because of the crisis being faced by the textile industry in Tamil Nadu. The Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu was informed that under the long term export policy of Government export of raw cotton is allowed keeping in view the specific objectives of "stabilisation of cotton prices', "ensuring remunerative prices to the cotton growers" and "maintaining India's presence in the international market as a stable supplier of cotton". The Cotton Advisory Board has estimated total supply of cotton during the current cotton season 1998-99 to the extent of 198.00 lakh bales (including carry over stocks and estimated import of 6.50 lakh bales) as against the total demand to the extent of 158 lakh bales (including estimated export of 2 lakh bales) leaving thereby a comfortable closing stock of 40 lakh bales of raw cotton. Moreover, import of raw cotton is placed under Open General Licence with 5% duty to allow free import if so needed. Also, Government do not have any scheme to supply yarn to any particular State/Industry except to the Handloom Sector.

Production of Jute

2479. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the target set and actual production of jute during the last three years, Statewise;

(b) whether Government have a proposal to increase the production of just and jute products;

(c) if so, the strategy to be adopted to increase the production during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(d) whether Government are aware of the inadequate marketing facilities in the Jute growing States; and

(e) if so, the details of steps taken to boost the Jute sector by increasing production, marketing and export in the Ninth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) A statement regarding target of production of jute and mesta actual statewise production of raw jute and mesta over the last 3 years is enclosed (*see* below).

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) Regarding strategy to be adopted for increasing the production of jute (including mesta) the steps proposed to be underaken are as follows:—

(i) Plan target at covering 90% of total area under jute and mesta has been proposed to be met by high yielding certified seeds.

(ii) Massive propagation is to be made amongst growers for popularising the use of line sowing of jute seeds.

(iii) Encouragement is to be given to the growers for use of low cost ribboners with high production rates.

(iv) Efforts are being made for construction of concrete/ordinary retting tanks for providing availability of clean water at block level for turnout of quality fibres.

As regards production of jute goods, the target has been set at 17.90 lakh M.T. at the end of 9th Five Year Plan from 14 lakh M.T. at the end of 8th Five Year Plan (1996-97). For augmentation of production of jute goods following measures have been proposed:

(i) Increasing capacity utilisation of jute industry.

(ii) Reduction in cost of production by optimum use of man, material and machinery.

(iii) Special emphasis on modernisation and rehabilitations.

(d) Jute Corporation of India has an adequate network in the jute growing States.

(e) Steps for increasing prodcution of jute have already been stated in (part-c). In respect of marketing. JCI ensures minimum support price to growers during peak arrival season. The Government of India also takes steps to announce minimum support price of raw jute and mesta well before the commencement of jute sowing. Efforts are being made for wide publicity of use of diversified products like decoratives, floors coverings, wall hangings, shopping bags, geo textiles hydrocarbon free jute bags etc.

On the export from, External Market Assistance Scheme (EMA) is operative, out of cess funds collection for marketing support for export of diversified value-added jute products produced by organised and decentralised sector. To boost the export of jute products export obligation on jute mills for receiving B. T will purchase order from Govt. account has been imposed. Priorities are also given in promotion of markets both in packaging and diversified products through participation in trade fairs, exhibitions by JMDC, organising buyers and seellers meet, visit of delegations and other promotional efforts.

Statement

In the draft 9th plan proposals, following all India targets for production of raw jute and mesta were fixed. State-wise targets were not fixed.

000 bales of 180 kg.

Season (July-June)	Jute	Mesta	Total
1996-97	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
1997-98	7840	1360	9200
1998-99	8190	1410	9600

Actual Statewise production of raw jute and mesta over last three years are as follows:—

Raw jute (in '000 bales of 180 kg each)

	1996-97	1997-98 (Estimated)	1998-99 (Estimated)
West Bengal	7506	7550	6456
Bihar	1292	969	908
Assam	803	900	738
Orissa	107	205	150
Uttar Pradesh	1	4	5
Tripura	13	17	13
Meghalaya	27	34	30
Others	2	—	—
Total	9751	9679	8300
Mesta: (in '000 bales of 180 kg each)			
West Bengal	66	70	61
Bihar	156	141	124
Assam	27	28	28
Orissa	167	204	187
Andhra Pradesh	717	585	463
Tripura	23	38	52
Meghalaya	22	18	18
M.P.	—	—	—
Karnataka	—	—	—
Maharashtra	—	—	—
Others	63	81	76
Total	1214	1165	1009

(SOURCE: Directorate of Jute Development, Ministry of Agriculture).